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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/825,941	04/05/2001	Masahiko Honda	0050-0093	3805
44987	7590	05/16/2006	EXAMINER SHAH, CHIRAG G	
HARRITY SNYDER, LLP 11350 Random Hills Road SUITE 600 FAIRFAX, VA 22030			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 05/16/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/825,941	HONDA, MASAHIKO
	Examiner Chirag G. Shah	Art Unit 2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to 4/24/06.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9 and 15-18; renumbered 1-13 respectively.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.



PATENT EXAMINER, DIVISION 2616

Attachment(s)

1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____.
3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____.	7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment
4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
	9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Brian E. Ledell on 5/12/06.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 15, lines 15-19 have been replaced by the following:

"a controller configured to generate the system switching signal and to receive status signals from the first switch section and the second switch section that include information relating to a packet storage state of the plurality of priority queues of the first switch section and the second switch section and being used by the controller to control the plurality of output selectors."

Reasons For Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Regarding claim 1, Prior Art fails to disclose a controller configured to receive status signals from both of the switch sections that include information relating to a packet storing

status of the M priority queues and based on the status signals, control the output selector to select the one of the M priority queues in combination with other limitations set forth in the respective claim.

Regarding claim 5; Prior Art fails to disclose a controller configured to generate the system switching signal and receive status signals from each of the two switch sections that include information relating to a storage status of the high-priority queues and the low-priority queues, the controller controlling the high-priority selectors and the low priority selectors depending on the status signals in combination with other limitations set forth in the respective claim.

Regarding claim 15, Prior Art fails to disclose a controller configured to generate the system switching signal and to receive status signals from the first switch section and the second switch section that include information relating to a packet storage state of the plurality of priority queues of the first switch section and the second switch section and being used by the controller to control the plurality of output selectors in combination with other limitations set forth in the respective claim.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

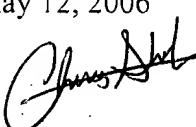
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chirag G. Shah whose telephone number is 571-272-3144. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on 571-272-7682. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

cgs
May 12, 2006


Chirag Shah
Patent Examiner, Division 2616